

Village of Los Lunas



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Transportation Plan Studies Area Traffic

The Village Council and staff will be reviewing this month Phase 2 of the Transportation Study which has been ongoing for the last few years.

Phase 1 of the study included gathering data. (Read about Phase 1 on page 3)

Phase 2 will develop traffic volume projections for the future as well as develop planning level solutions to address the traffic volumes.

Phase 2 tasks include:

1. Assess the capacity of the existing roadway network under existing traffic loads and locate deficiencies. This effort will include updated accident data.

2. Evaluate the existing criteria for roadway classification and recommend adjustments if needed.

3. Develop recommendations for improvements to the existing system and associated costs for planning purposes. These improvements, for example, could be additional lanes, left-turn bays, right-turn bays, improved signal timing, etc.

4. Develop projections of traffic demand on the existing roadway network 20-years in the future. A traffic computer model will be used in this effort. Future population projections, future land-use projections, and other pertinent information

will also be used.

5. Assess the capacity of the existing roadway network under future traffic loads and locate deficiencies. This effort will use updated accident data.

6. Develop recommendations for improvements to the existing system using traffic projections from 20-years in the future. Again, costs at a planning level will be provided. These improvements, for example, could be additional lanes, left-turn bays, right-turn bays, improved signal timing, etc.

7. Develop major route recommendations to reduce deficiencies in the roadway network at 20-years in the future. This will involve analyzing the deficiencies in the traffic network already found above and determining, through use of the computer model, whether or not a

new traffic route would be beneficial. This effort could, for example, provide information on the impact of a new east-west arterial on the existing roadway network.

8. The above recommendations will then be combined and prioritized in an Implementation Plan to allow the Village to plan for the design and construction of improvements in the future.

9. A Phase 2 Summary Report will be prepared.

10. Schedule presentations with the Village Council and public to explain the results of the study.

The purpose of the recommendations and costs provided in this study will be to provide a planning and budgeting tool for the Village of Los Lunas. Therefore, the improvements mentioned above will be

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Daniel Fernandez Youth Center Addition

The south side of the Daniel Fernandez Youth Center in Daniel Fernandez Park on South Highway 314 will look like this when a \$516,058 addition is completed. The addition will upgrade the facility as well as add a weight room with cardiovascular equipment. Other improvements include modifying offices, redoing the heating and air conditioning system and creating a new employees' entrance.

Village Cleans Up with First Place

The Village received a first place award at the Keep New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Governor's Award Ceremony held in Santa Fe on February 4. Josie Navarette and Marie Marquez accepted the award. They were accompanied to the ceremony by Cyndi Sluder of the Valencia County Tierra Bonita which works with the village's cleanup programs.

The goal for the village's cleanup program this year is to conduct monthly cleanups using community service workers. Each month an area in the village will be selected for cleaning by these groups.

The two big cleanups will be The Great American Cleanup in April and the Trek for Trash in September. Because the Los Lunas High School prom is scheduled April 30, the statewide date for the Great American Cleanup, the village will hold its cleanup April 23.

The entire community's help is needed for both cleanups. The last cleanup had 110 volunteers. April's project hopes to draw 150. Prizes will be given, lunch will be served and cleanup supplies will be available.

Each year the village relies on businesses by

Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice a month in the council chambers in the administrative building on the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2004 are:

March 10 & 24 April 7 & 21
May 5 & 19 June 2 & 16
July 7 & 21 August 4 & 18
September 1 & 15 October 6 & 20
November 3 & 17 December 8 & 29

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are rescheduled so check with village officials at 839-3840 to be sure a meeting has not been changed.

The agenda will be available at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting from the bulletin board located in the lobby of the Administration Office, located at 660 Main Street, Los Lunas, NM; the Los Lunas Library located at 460 Main Street in Los Lunas, NM; and posted on the village website (address: www.loslunasnm.gov).

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning **Mayor**

Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo Charles Griego

Gerard Saiz Robert Vialpando

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo Master Municipal Clerk

Chief of Police Nick Balido



Marie Marquez, left, and Josie Navarette proudly display the village's first place award.

asking for in-kind donations to help with lunch for the cleanups as well as to purchase other items not covered by Keep New Mexico Clean and Beautiful funding. These monies have purchased ten additional cleanup street signs which are now in different areas of the village reminding people to help keep Los Lunas clean and beautiful

Josie and Marie encourage everyone to be responsible for keeping the litter problem under control. They express their appreciation to businesses for past donations. Josie and Marie say a special thank you to village Utilities Director Betty Berhend for her support as well as Street Supervisor Manny Duran and his crew for installing the new Keep Los Lunas Beautiful signs.

Did You Know?

Village Zoning Enforcement Officer Josie

Navarette writes a column about different aspects of the village's zoning ordinance.

Just a Reminder! Ag Animals Allowed Only in AR/RR Zones

With the Spring season and the Easter Holiday approaching us very soon, very cute baby rabbits and baby chicks can be found for sale.

This is a reminder that agricultural animals are only allowed in the AR (agricultural zoned) and RR (rural residential zoned) properties. Please refer to Municipal code section 17.44.060. If you have a question as to what your property is zoned please call zoning enforcement at 839-3842.

Transportation Study Phase 1 Gathers Data, Develops Traffic Model

The first phase of the Village's Comprehensive Transportation Study, released in October, 2003, gathered data and developed the base traffic model. The following work was performed to develop the data:

- Obtaining traffic counts on the existing roadway system of the village and at key locations outside the village.
- Obtaining other pertinent information required for the computer model and subsequent analyses.
- Developing the computer model for the existing roadway system.
- Providing the TMODEL Software and initial training.
- Preparing a Phase 1 Summary Report and providing a Phase 1 Summary Public Meeting in November, 2003, to explain the progress of the study and to receive public feedback.

Phase 2 of the study takes the gathered data to develop traffic volume projections for the future as well as develop planning level solutions to be able to handle those traffic volumes.

Phase 1 reveals many interesting aspects of the continued growth and change within the Village of Los Lunas.

Existing intersections of concern include:

- Los Lentes Road and Main Street which experiences a high number of accidents as well as very low levels of service.
- NM 314 and Main Street which fails in the afternoon peak traffic hours in the east-bound direction.
- NM 47 and NM 6 intersection which has the highest number of accidents and a decreasing level of service.
- In the 2003 report, the Los Cerritos Road and Main Street intersection was listed as a concern, but a traffic light is in place now which alleviates much of the problem.

Signal progression synchronization on Main Street (NM 6) is also a concern because this causes a significant reduction in capacity at the NM 314 intersection as well as several other intersections.

One of the concerns that comes to the forefront for the future transportation system in the village and sur-

rounding area is the discontinuity of east-west routes, according to the report. Several north-south routes, such as NM 47, NM 314 and the Manzano Expressway, exist, but there is no continuous east-west route from Interstate 25 to the areas on the east mesa.

The report points out some people might argue that this topic should not concern the village because the Village currently has the east-west routes it needs and traffic outside of the village is not its concern. "However, the current primary east-west route for the entire area, Main Street, passes through the heart of the village. The intersection of NM 47 and NM 6 is also within the Village. Therefore, as this area continues to grow, this issue will become a problem for the Village if it is not already," points out the Phase I report.

In conducting Phase 1 of the study, other governmental agencies were kept aware of what was transpiring because the village traffic model is influenced by so many different governmental agencies. These agencies include the Mid-Region Council of Governments and the New Mexico Department of Transportation. During Phase 2 contact will be maintained with these agencies as well as Valencia County and Los Lunas Public Schools and others as needed.

A copy of Phase I of the Transportation Study can be read at the Los Lunas Public Library, 460 Main Street in Los Lunas.

Commercial/Residential Growth Continues

Homes are now being constructed in the Los Cerritos and Las Brisas del Rio subdivisions in Los Lunas. In addition, work is scheduled to begin this spring on several new businesses on the west side. The ground breaking is also expected on a new west side apartment complex.

Transportation Plan . . . Continued from Page 1 described in general terms with associated costs. The improvements will still need to go through the engineering design process for final configurations and costs. Any recommendations for major new roadways will not include the detail of a corridor study. The information will be only for general location of needed improvements.

County Mobility Plan Being Developed

The Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG), which the village participates in, is developing the Valencia County Mobility Plan.

The Plan is being directed by the Valencia County Steering Committee which is composed of elected officials from each of the governments in the county.

The Plan will include discussions of the current and projected employment and population in the county, roadway maintenance issues, school bus issues, commuter rail and other public transportation services, and current and expected funding levels.

The mission is to provide a prioritized, sustainable approach to transportation planning in Valencia County by identifying a regional, comprehensive and coordinated multimodal transportation system that will meet the needs of the county's citizens and business

community.

The contact at the MRCOG is Loretta Tollefson, phone 247-1750, email ltollefson@mrcog.nm.gov

Identify Address for Safety

Placing easily-seen identification numbers on your property is something that should be done as a safety measure.

Large numbers make it much easier for emergency workers to identify a location.

Village ordinances say "owners of all properties containing buildings should number such properties at the expense of the owners with durable numerals at least three inches high in such manner and location as to be plainly visible from the street."

FAMILY FUN FEST

Saturday, April 30

DANIEL FERNANDEZ PARK & YOUTH BUILDING

HIGHWAY 314 SOUTH LOS LUNAS



Come Join the Village's

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, April 23

7:00 AM – Noon

Village Administrative Building

Don Pasqual and Main Street

Call Marie or Josie for Details 839-3842

Or Check the Village Website

www.loslunasnm.gov

